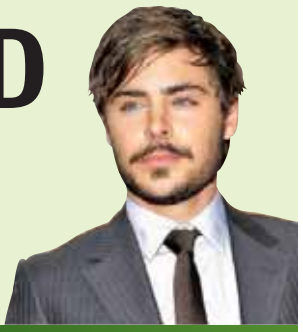
WARM FUZZIES
MAD LOVE AND OTHER NEW ROM-COMS SET TO AIR {page 7}

SPOTTED
ZAC EFRON
GETS COSY WITH A NEW GIRL {page 7}



VANCOUVER metro®
Monday, February 7, 2011
www.metronews.ca
News worth sharing.

Liberals in home stretch

- Candidates boast about membership-drive numbers
- Campaign now shifts to lobbying of party members
- Provincewide leadership vote is Feb. 26

MATT KIELTYKA
@METRONEWS.CA

STEPHANIE ORFORD/METRO FILE

▶ Liberal leadership hopeful Kevin Falcon.

While B.C. Liberal Party staffers tally up thousands of new memberships, the candidates are moving on to Phase 2.

As quick as leadership candidate Kevin Falcon announced that his team had brought in over 17,500 new members to the party by Friday's deadline, the former transportation and health minister was calling for a "juiced-up" debate format as his campaign hit the home stretch.

"I'm glad we signed up so many supporters to the party, but now it's a new phase," Falcon said yesterday. "Those supporters are already going to vote for me. Now I have to convince people in the party (that) I'm the best candidate."

His weapon of choice is an off-the-cuff debate format where candidates can't rely on prepared statements and notes.

"There shouldn't be any advance notice of questions. This is about finding out who has the best grasp of the issues," he said.

The final numbers have yet to be released, but the Liberal membership is expected to double.

On top of Falcon's reported 17,500 newcomers, Mike de Jong claimed to have brought about 10,000 new members into the Liberal fold.

Expected totals for the other candidates — George Abbott, Christy Clark, Moira Stillwell and Ed Mayne — were not released.

A provincewide vote for the B.C. Liberal leadership will be held Feb. 26.

NFL. Super Bowl

▶ Green Bay Packer Aaron Rodgers holds the Vince Lombardi Trophy after his team's 31-25 win over the Pittsburgh Steelers in the Super Bowl last night in Arlington, Texas. Rodgers was named the game's most valuable player. Story, page 13.

MARK HUMPHREY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Pack takes Lombardi Trophy back

New concessions offered in Egypt

But Mubarak's ouster still protesters' top priority {page 3}

For love of mate, planet

How to be green on Valentine's Day {page 10}

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1 news

Aussie who quit job to follow Packers for a year returns for Super Bowl. Scan code for story.

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3 The codes will direct your mobile browser to relevant content at m.metronews.ca

On the web at metronews.ca

Middle East unrest remains front of mind for investors ahead of new market week. Video at metronews.ca

Man injured in gang shooting

A North Vancouver man is in hospital after being injured early Saturday in what appears to be a gang-related shooting in Vancouver. Police were called to 37th Avenue and Oak Street just before 4 a.m. after reports of gunshots and a car crash. A 30-year-old man was found in the street, injured from a number of bullet wounds. A car, which had struck a parked vehicle, was found on a nearby sidewalk.

The injured man, who police say has gang affiliations, was taken to hospital. No suspects were located. METRO

Teacher found guilty of wife's death

Former Surrey teacher Mukhtiar Panghali has been found guilty of second-degree murder in the death of his pregnant wife, whose charred remains were found along a Delta road in 2006.
METRO

Shenanigans 'endemic' to party politics: Experts

Fraudulent or fake political party memberships such as B.C. Liberal's cat are "endemic" of a system that encourages mass member drives and allows parties to police themselves, observers say. The story of Olympia, a cat registered as a Liberal in advance of this month's leadership vote, prompted a flurry of cat puns and even a satirical website. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Lunar. New Year

▶ Fan dancers add a splash of colour to the Lunar New Year parade through Chinatown yesterday.

NATALIE KAUR JOHAL/FOR METRO

Bright beginning to new year

Despite the cold, thousands of spectators lined the streets as more than 3,000 participants took part in the 2011 Lunar New Year parade, which featured dozens of dance troupes, marching bands and community groups. For a photo gallery, visit metronews.ca.

Valentine's date in court

Internet dater accused of stealing woman's car ◗ Thomas James Newman under investigation for at least five additional thefts

MATT KIELTYKA
@METRONEWS.CA

A Vancouver man accused of stealing from women he met online now has a date for Valentine's Day.

Thomas James Newman, 36, is scheduled to appear in court on Feb. 14 after being arrested Friday while driving a vehicle he allegedly stole from a woman.

Vancouver police say they received reports of an erratic driver near W. 12th Avenue and Arbutus Street at 11:30 p.m.

When pulled over, officers realized it was Newman and arrested him on a Canada-wide warrant.

Newman allegedly used online dating services to hook up with female victims and rob them.

He's being investigated for at least six separate incidents, including one case where he allegedly stole a black Honda Civic.

Police are warning online daters to be cautious of whom they meet, and urge people to meet in a public place until they get to know their date.

Charges

Thomas James Newman faces several charges.

1 Possession of stolen property over $5,000 and causing a police pursuit.

2 Dangerous operation of a motor vehicle.

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No ouster yet, but reform promised

Concessions placate without giving in to the unified opposition's demand — Mubarak's immediate resignation

Egypt's vice-president, Omar Suleiman, met a broad representation of major opposition groups for the first time yesterday.

Suleiman offered new concessions including freedom of the press, release of those detained since anti-government protests began nearly two weeks ago and the eventual lifting of the country's hated emergency laws.

Two groups in attendance said this was only a first step in a dialo-gue that has yet to meet their central demand — the immediate ouster of long-time President Hosni Mubarak.

"The protest continues because there are no guarantees and not all demands have been met," said Mostafa al-Naggar, a protest organizer and supporter of Mohamed ElBaradei, a Nobel Peace laureate and one of the country's leading democracy advocates.

"We did not sign on to the statement. This is a beginning of a dialogue. We approve the positive things in the statement but ... we are still demanding that the president step down."

The outlawed Muslim Brotherhood, the country's largest opposition group, made a similar statement.

Suleiman offered to form a judiciary committee to study proposed constitutional reforms that would allow more candidates to run for president and impose term limits on the presidency, the state news agency reported. The committee was given until the first week of March to finish the tasks.

"We are still demanding that the president step down."
MOSTAFA AL-NAGGAR, PROTEST ORGANIZER

The offer also included a pledge not to harass those participating in anti-government protests, which have drawn hundreds of thousands at the biggest rallies.

The government agreed not to hamper freedom of press and not to interfere with text messaging and Internet.

The meeting drew the broadest representation of Egypt's fragmented opposition to sit with the new vice-president since the protests began on Jan. 25.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Twin girls missing after father's death

FORESTRY POLICE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Alessia Schepp

Livia Schepp

Police in Italy, Switzerland and France searched yesterday for six-year-old twin girls, who disappeared after their father died in an apparent suicide.

The body of Matthias Kaspar Schepp, 43, a Canadian-born resident of Switzerland, was found by a railway station near the southern Italian port city Bari shortly before 11 p.m. on Thursday, according to Swiss police in the canton (state) of Vaud.

Authorities believe Schepp, who was separated from his wife, threw himself under a train.

Police are searching for Alessia and Livia, who lived in Lausanne with their mother, Irina Lucidi, 44.

According to Italian news reports, Schepp picked up his daughters from their mother's home on Jan. 28 for the weekend.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS.

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Market moment

DOLLAR	Natural gas 1,000 cu ft	OIL	TSX
+ 0.26¢ (101.17¢ US)	$4.310 (– 2.7¢)	– $1.51 ($89.03 US)	– 49.5 13,791.85
	Gold contracts $1,349.00 (– $4.00)		

For more business news and updates, go online to metronews.ca/business

Big boost or bad numbers?

Friday's news that 69,200 jobs were created in January seemed to come out of thin air. The previous month saw a more realistic 22,000 pickup, the month before, 15,000. Before then, 3,000.

What is generally missing in the coverage of Statistics Canada's most important economic indicator is how wonky the numbers can be.

Last week, the agency had to revise down the number of jobs it reported were created in the months after the recession. It also revised up, from 417,000 to 428,000, how many jobs were lost during the downturn.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Political unrest upsets markets

The tone on the Toronto stock market this week will be set by the commodity sectors amid volatile oil prices because of unrest in Egypt and surging copper prices.

Oil prices moved up last week, closing as high as $92 US as traders worried the Suez Canal could be shut and that the political unrest could spread to other oil-rich countries in the region.

But there are doubts those levels can be sustained.

At the same time, John Kurgan at Lind Waldock noted that volatility in oil prices will likely continue and could see oil back trading under $90 US this week.

"This is not something that's going to resolve itself near term," he said. "This is fluid, this is going to take awhile to settle."

On Friday, prices headed down to $89.03 US a barrel as hopes rose for an end to the political protests in Egypt.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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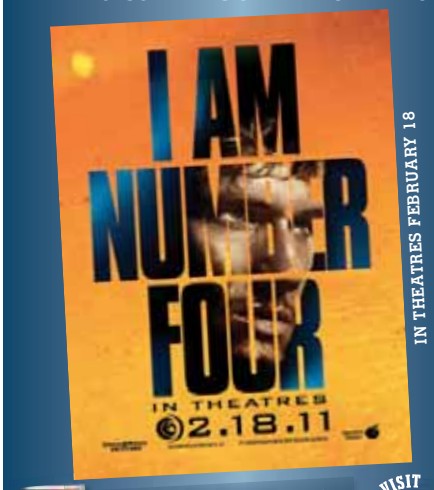

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DOGGONE MAD FOR MAN'S BEST FRIEND

Urban Compass

PAUL SULLIVAN

I don't know about you, but I'm still mad.

And it's not just flickering embers; it's a hot flare of anger that threatens to jump the firewall.

I'm mad about the dogs.

I'm mad that someone thinks sled dogs are just excess inventory, to be shot, stabbed and buried in a mass anonymous grave.

I'm mad that the guy responsible for killing the sled dogs even thought it was an option. If they were people, he would have given them notice. Man's best friend gets a bullet in the head.

I'm mad because the various authorities aren't co-operating to get to the bottom of an unspeakable crime; instead, they're fussing about the confidentiality of documents and jurisdiction.

Meanwhile, out there somewhere near Whistler, buried under the snow, is a lonely grave full of beautiful murdered animals who should be exhumed, reburied with honour as the martyrs of human arrogance.

I'm mad because some people claim this is an isolated incident when there are numerous reports that sled dog "culls" are all too common. Check out the Animal Legal Defense Fund for a collection of stories about tossing unwanted puppies in a nearby creek, bludgeoning excess puppies with an axe handle, and other "culls" of old, injured or unwanted dogs.

"I cannot believe anyone in their right (or even their wrong) mind could ever execute a single dog, never mind 100, one after another."

I'm mad because no one can spell. They keep referring to "cull" when the correct term is "kill" or, more accurately, "murder."

I'm mad because the hardest thing I have ever had to do is put down two of my very best friends, Mable and Cleo, because they were old and full of cancer. I held their noble heads in my lap as the vet put them to sleep. I cried like a fool and I thanked them for allowing me into their lives, and I cannot believe anyone in their right (or even their wrong) mind could ever execute a single dog, never mind 100, one after another.

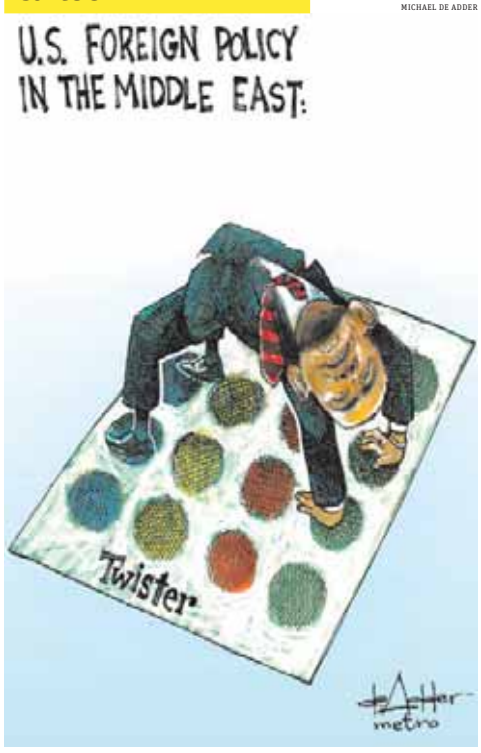
I'm mad because I've got blood on my hands, too. I eat animals; I wear animals; I exploit animals in ways in which I'm not even aware. I'm sentimental about dogs, but I obviously don't give a damn about chickens, pigs, cows, and whoever keeps my feet warm and my pants up.

I'm mad because this guy who killed the dogs is a poster boy for animal cruelty. He allows us to feel superior, which may be good for our self-esteem but does nothing to protect our fellow creatures.

I'm mad because tomorrow, nothing's going to change. You know it, but the dogs don't. The poor pooches are still happy to see us.

Cartoon

MICHAEL DE ADDER



Celebrating celebrities

Letters & Tweets

Re: Celebrate Pay A Compliment Day (Feb. 6) by saying something nice about a celebrity you don't like.

@buzzbishop: I'd like to thank Speidi for showing true love knows no bounds when it comes to manufacturing news headlines.

@kimbowie: I think that Lindsay Lohan is probably a really gifted, if misunderstood, linguist.

@piccolacinzia: Nice thing about celebrities is they are keeping a lot employed in medical field due to their concerns about how they look!

@ken_donnelly: Paris Hilton has never picked her nose at our dinner table.

@dizzypuma: Hmmm, this one's tough. Paris, even though you've been through so many crazy scandals ... I still like your hair ... #benice.

@heatbagger: Paris Hilton, I really love how smart you are. You are brilliant.

@nsexport: Let's see, say something nice!! Oh, Mr. Bieber, I don't think it's ridiculous you have a movie about yourself already at 16.

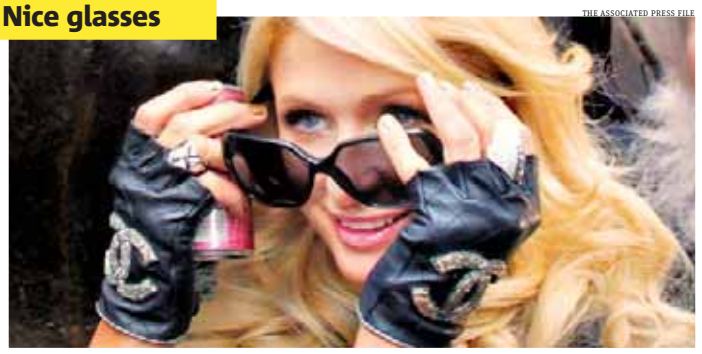
@deasmom: I'm glad Justin Bieber isn't touring to #yyc very nice.

@ajproc: Ricky Gervais is not the most annoying and unfunny comedian in the world !!

@johnnynovak: Charlie Sheen I loved your performance in Ferris Bueller's Day Off! Love, Johnny.

Nice glasses

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE



What buzzword would you like to see banned?

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Metro Minute at Robson Square

As the city gets ready to celebrate the first anniversary of its Olympic Games this week, you can relive some of that magic with a free skate at the Robson Square ice rink.

The ice rink, which is open until the end of February, was among the popular free attractions during the 2010 Winter Games.

The rink is open daily from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. and is free if you have your own skates.

Skate rentals are $3 and are available along with helmets and skate sharpening, and food at an on-site concession stand.

For more information, call the Robson Square hotline at 604-646-3554.

METRO

JENNIFER GAUTHIER/METRO FILE

▶ A couple enjoys some ice skating at Robson Square.

2 scene

Awards

The sci-fi smash Inception and the Facebook drama The Social Network took top screenplay honours Saturday night at the Writers Guild Awards. Inception writer Christopher Nolan, pictured, won for best original screenplay and The Social Network writer Aaron Sorkin won for best adapted screenplay. The awards were handed out by the Writers Guild of America in simultaneous ceremonies at the Renaissance Hollywood Hotel in Los Angeles and the AXA Equitable Center in New York.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ed Asner happy to bring his 'crab element' back to series TV in CMT's Working Class

DAMIAN DOVARGANES/THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ Actor Jason Biggs, left, jokes with actresses Sarah Chalke, centre, and Judy Greer, about their new show Mad Love during a recent press tour.

Rom-coms set to take over the tube

Sorting out the glut of new romantic comedies that will hit the air in the coming weeks

The TV listings are jammed with new romantic comedies (or "rom-coms") set to air in the coming weeks.

The tricky part will be telling them apart. Here's a handy guide.

Perfect Couples
(Thursdays on NBC and Citytv)

Premise: Three couples, all very different, strive for the perfect relationship. None come close.

Stars: Kyle Bornheimer (Worst Week), Christine Woods (FlashForward), Olivia Munn (Attack of the Show!) and Mary Elizabeth Ellis (It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia).

From: One of the executive producers behind Friends, Scott Silveri, who has more or less crammed new actors into old Friends characters and situations and done away with the studio audience.

Distinguishing feature: A fourth couple features a "Bro-mance."

Mad Love
(Premieres tonight on CBS and CTV)

Premise: A comedy about two New Yorkers who fall madly in love and their mutual best friends who despise each other (for now).

Stars: Jason Biggs (the American Pie movies), Sarah Chalke (Scrubs), Tyler Labine (Reaper) and Judy Greer (already a rom-com regular).

Distinguishing feature: Has the most Canadians in the cast (Chalke and Labine).

From: Brother and sister Matt and Jamie Tarses; Matt was a producer on Scrubs, Jamie is a former network executive who helped champion Friends (and is also among the producers of Happy Endings, below).

Happy Endings
(Coming in April on ABC)

Premise: According to the trailer, "a classic story of boy meets girl, boy loses girl to guy on roller blades, boy becomes biggest YouTube sensation since kitten stuck in tuba." A woman ditches a groom at the altar but both remain tight among their posse of six friends.

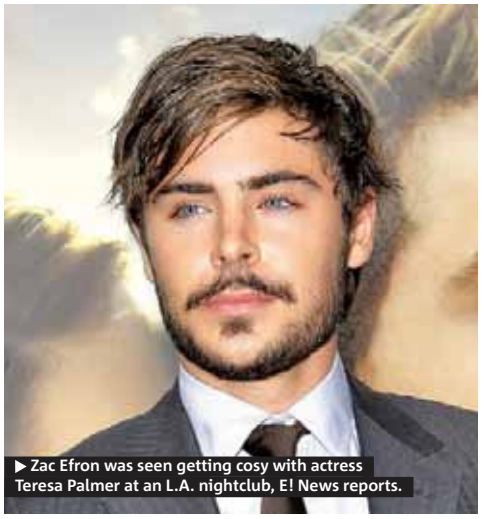
Stars: Canadian Elisha Cuthbert (24) and Zachary Knighton (FlashForward), Casey Wilson (Saturday Night Live) and Damon Wayans Jr. (son of Damon Wayans, who will guest star).

From: Tarses and newcomer David Caspe.

Distinguishing feature: The only one of these rom-coms with a person of colour in the cast.

Greatest advantage: Unlike the other two, guaranteed to still be around in April.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES



▶ Zac Efron was seen getting cosy with actress Teresa Palmer at an L.A. nightclub, E! News reports.

Zac over Vanessa?

Efron reportedly spotted dirty dancing with Aussie actress

Zac Efron seems to have moved on from Vanessa Hudgens, as the young star was spotted getting frisky with Australian actress Teresa Palmer after a screening of her new film, Take Me Home Tonight, according to E! News.

Efron and Palmer headed to an L.A. nightclub where they took to a VIP table for drinking, dancing and more.

"He was grabbing her butt and doing very suggestive dancing. Then they made out a couple of times standing up where they were dancing. I was surprised they were doing that in front of everyone. It was like they didn't care," a source says."They were there for like an hour and left together." METRO

Celebrity tweets

Elijah Wood [@woodelijah] Goodbye, White Stripes. Indeed, your work will last forever. I shall miss you, Meg and Jack

Jim Carrey [@JimCarrey] The image of myself on my homepage is slowly growing a dark beard.
METRO

Tattoo No. 5 for Miley Cyrus

Though she's just 18 years old, Miley Cyrus reportedly just got her fifth tattoo, according to People magazine.

The tattoo, on her side under her right arm, is of a dream catcher.

"It's a picture of the dream catcher that hangs over her bed with four feathers to represent her four brothers and sisters," a source says.

"The dream catcher is to protect them." METRO

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Dermal LASER CENTRES

3 life

No revolution

The filming permit for chef Jamie Oliver's ABC series Jamie Oliver's Food Revolution was terminated this week, by the Los Angeles School District. A spokeswoman for the network said production would continue.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Mark Zuckerberg's father: Support children's strengths with work, play balance.

Debunking stuttering myths

The King's Speech is winning praise from stutterers The speech impediment affects 70-million

A movie about a stuttering monarch, without sex, car chases or super heroes, hardly sounds like blockbuster box-office fare.

But in a less flashy way, The King's Speech is about a hero, one who battles an invisible enemy that torments nearly 70-million people around the world.

In demystifying the little-understood speech impediment, the film reveals myths and fascinating truths about stuttering, and has won praise from stutterers of all ages.

For Erik Yehl, an 11-year-old Chicago boy who began stuttering in preschool, the movie's message is, "I'm not stupid."

It's a stigma all people who stutter contend with — the notion that because their words sometimes sputter or fail to come out at all, their minds must be somehow mixed up.

"People who stutter — their minds are perfectly good, and they're not deaf, and they don't need to be told to breathe.

"...There are some things that most people think will help, but they don't. I'm hoping this movie will fix that."

ADIAN HARDY, WHO STUTTERS

breathe. What they need ... is to be listened to," said Susan Hardy, who saw the film with her son Aidan, a Chicago eighth-grader who also stutters.

Jane Fraser, president of the Stuttering Foundation of America, said the movie mirrors her experience growing up with a father who stuttered.

Malcolm Fraser formed the advocacy group in 1947 to raise awareness and provide resources for people who stutter.

"The impact for me was just bringing home 64 years of trying to get across to people how devastating this disorder is," Fraser's daughter said of seeing the movie.

Stuttering affects almost one per cent of the global population. It typically begins in early childhood as kids are learning to speak and is more common in boys.

About five per cent of children stutter, but most outgrow it. The condition tends to run in families and genes are thought to be involved in some cases.

The scant brain imaging research done on the impediment has suggested that different kinds of brain activity occur when people stutter than when they speak fluently.

Scientists aren't sure why, and also don't know why different activities induce fluency among some but not all stutterers, said Ehud Yairi, a prominent University of Illinois stuttering expert.

Speech therapist Stephanie Hirsh says she learned to control her own stuttering partly by using a breathing technique to maintain a continuous flow of air while talking.

Hirsh offers this advice: Let stutterers know they have all the time they need to express themselves, and that you want to hear what they have to say.

Stutter Sources

For more on overcoming stuttering, visit:

- NIH: nidcd.nih.gov/health/voice/stutter.asp
- Stuttering Foundation of America: stutteringhelp.org

▶ In The King's Speech, Colin Firth portrays King George VI, who took speech therapy to overcome his stuttering so he could address his nation during the Second World War.

Film up for 12 Oscars on Feb. 27

The King's Speech depicts King George VI, father of the Queen, as a reluctant leader tortured by his stuttering. But with a sense of duty as England confronts a Second World War, he musters the courage to seek speech therapy to calm an anxious nation.

The movie and its actors have already won Golden Globes and other honours.

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Kick up your salad with a tea dressing

RAYYAN AYASH/ THE CANADIAN PRESS (HO)

▶ Green Tea, Jasmine and Lotus Tea Dressing

Use a few high-quality ingredients when pairing tea and food, says Therese DeGrace of Kitchen Culture.

The chef uses tea both in food and to accompany a dish. When developing recipes using tea, "I looked at the ingredients that were in the tea because I wanted tea to be the star and I worked around that."

Here, she creates a salad dressing using tea.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Preparation:

1 In a bowl, whisk together dressing ingredients.

2 In a salad bowl, combine salad ingredients. Toss salad ingredients with dressing until well combined. Serve as a side or main dish.

Ingredients:

Goddess Greens

- 250 ml (1 cup) pea shoots
- 500 ml (2 cups) spinach
- 1 cucumber, finely diced
- 1 green apple, diced
- 500 ml (2 cups) shredded hearts of romaine
- 250 ml (1 cup) snow peas, cut thinly on a bias
- 30 ml (2 tbsp) raw sunflower seeds
- 250 ml (1 cup) radicchio

Green Tea, Jasmine and Lotus Tea Dressing

- 1 sachet green tea, jasmine and lotus flower tea that has been pulverized (remove from sachet)
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) organic full-fat yogurt
- 30 ml (2 tbsp) lemon juice
- 75 ml (1/3 cup) apple cider vinegar
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) vegetable oil
- Salt and pepper, to taste

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REACH HER GREEN HEART

Queen of Green

LINDSAY COULTER
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I think Valentine's Day is just a greeting-card holiday, but my wife doesn't agree. Do you have any suggestions to please the green-hearted? ***Dan of Ottawa***

Two traditional gifts come to mind: flowers and chocolate. And it's not just Valentine's Day they have in common. You can find Fair Trade-certified versions of both in most parts of Canada.

Fair trade is based on a partnership between consumers and producers from the developing world, ultimately giving them a better deal and improved terms of trade. You're actually voting with your dollar and supporting farmers who are protected by a high level of ethical and economic standards.

Fair Trade certification ensures that producers and their families and communities in developing countries get an opportunity to improve their lives and plan for the future — and it helps the environment.

You'll also discover the label on other products like spices, sugar, rice, fruit and even soccer balls. Another simple way to green up your bouquet shopping skills year-round is to ask your florist for local, seasonal and organic flowers.

Fair Trade certification ensures that producers ... get an opportunity to improve their lives and plan for the future

Many cut flowers are grown overseas in developing countries, where growers use toxic pesticides banned here in Canada.

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So tell your local florist that you'd love it if they supplied more flowers from local growers, free from pesticides.

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HAVING A BALL IS HIS BUSINESS

"I'm sorry but we've decided to go in another direction." You sit in stunned disbelief and realize IT has happened to you. You are now unemployed.

James Milligan of Vancouver had worked at a major telecom company for 12 years when he was laid off. But it didn't take him long to get back on his feet.

A course in sustainability management allowed him to start his own company and make a difference in the lives of children around the world.

Milligan is buying fair trade soccer balls from Pakistan and is helping to break the cycle of poverty by contributing to a fund where the workers can receive food, medical supplies and fresh water. His travels have led him to Uganda, Guatemala, Nicaragua and Mexico, where he is encouraging children to play soccer and discuss issues like post-conflict healing and domestic violence.

"I feel like I'm making a difference in a small way. I love my life right now."

Learn from James and other Canadians just like him. Take all of life's "pink slips" and turn them into new beginnings.

▶ James Milligan believes that soccer can help to charge a child's spirit.

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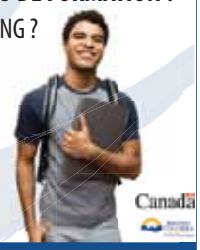

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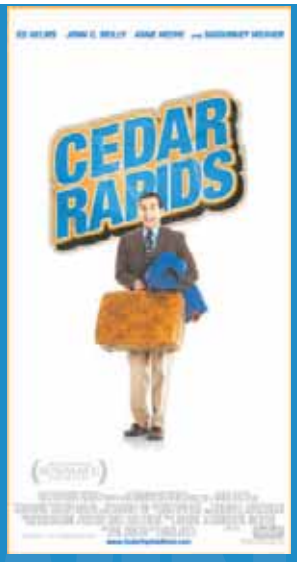

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Teacher talk

Parent-teacher interviews can be stressful and far from enlightening

But they don't necessarily have to be that way

DENIS POROY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Parents should have what questions they'd like to ask teachers ready to avoid wasting their time slot.

[illegible] sometimes be the most dreaded night of the year, when you scramble to spend two minutes each with a half-dozen teachers who may not even know your kid's name.

You stumble down hallways, head up the down staircase, looking for the science lab or drama studio. Or you crowd in the cafeteria or gym with hundreds of other confused moms and dads, mispronouncing unfamiliar teachers' names as you wait your turn. Some teachers time the sessions, ending them with a digital beep; in other schools, student monitors keep the clock, interrupting your meeting when time is up.

If your kid's a straight A student, it probably won't be too painful — except for all the waiting. But if "needs improvement" was checked more than once on your child's report card, you could be in for a long, depressing night.

In fact, it can feel a little like speed-dating — except there's zero chance of love at first sight.

And it's so very different from elementary school, where one teacher, who spent as many waking hours with your child as you did, could hold forth for 15 minutes on your child's personality, talents and needs. Once kids get to Grade 6, a subject teacher may have 200 students in five different classes, and there's no time on parent-teacher night for more than a summary of how yours is faring.

"I find parent-teacher nights very stressful," said Virginia Anagnos, whose son is a sophomore at a New York City public high school.

But she's come up with a good strategy for dealing with the "horse race." Report card in hand, she first identifies the subjects where her son scored the lowest grades, and signs up to see those teachers first.

"If the wait list is long, I identify other classes on the same floor to determine if I can see other teachers in the interim," she said. And she has her questions ready: Where can her son improve? What should he focus on at home? Are there websites or programs he should look into? How can she, as a parent, guide him?

Most important, "May I follow up with you via email in four weeks to check on his progress?"

Anagnos' approach is in keeping with what experts recommend. Roxanne Farwick Owens, chair of the teacher education department at DePaul University, says parents may need to schedule longer follow-up meetings if kids are having problems. But in many cases, you can make effective use of these brief meetings by getting basic "information about what's going on with the child and how the teacher, parent, and child can work together to improve the child's performance."

Ask how the grade was determined — homework, tests, participation?

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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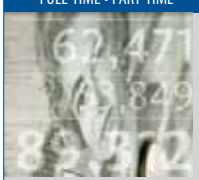

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Rodgers returns Packers to glory

MIKE EHRMANN/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Tramon Williams of the Green Bay Packers, right, breaks up a pass to Mike Wallace of the Pittsburgh Steelers late in the fourth quarter during Super Bowl XLV.

Bay holds off Steelers' late surge

Aaron Rodgers has turned the Green Bay Packers into Super Bowl champions once again.

Rodgers threw three touchdown passes and Nick Collins returned an interception for another, leading the Packers to a 31-25 victory over the Pittsburgh Steelers last night.

This was Green Bay's fourth Super Bowl title. The Packers won the first two Super Bowls with Vince Lombardi coaching Bart Starr, and captured another with Brett Favre in January 1997.

The Steelers trailed 21-3 before halftime. Ben Roethlisberger got them to within 28-25 midway through the fourth quarter with a touchdown pass and a nifty two-point conversion. The Packers answered with a field goal, giving Roethlisberger one last chance.

Needing to go 87 yards in 1:59 with one timeout left, Roethlisberger couldn't make it across midfield.

This was only the second time Pittsburgh has lost a Super Bowl. The Steelers still have the most wins with six.

31	25
PACKERS	STEELERS

Green Bay led 21-17 after three quarters, but the Packers were without cornerbacks Charles Woodson and Sam Shields and receiver Donald Driver.

The Steelers had the momentum, the experience and the crowd — tens of thousands of fans making things tough for Rodgers to bark out signals at times.

But on the first play of the fourth, with Pittsburgh possibly driving for a go-ahead touchdown, Rashard Mendenhall fumbled on a hit by Clay Matthews Jr. The Packers took over at their own 45-yard line.

Jennings caught his second TD pass of the game to give the Packers a 28-17 lead with 11:57 to play — their third touchdown following a takeaway.

The Packers' final points came on a 23-yard field goal by Mason Crosby with 2:07 left. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

4 sports

Canucks preview

Senators at Canucks
7 p.m.
TV: Sportsnet
Radio: AM 1040

The Senators scored three first-period goals on Saturday night but still lost 5-3 to the New York Islanders.

The Canucks (34-10-9) have won five straight and sit on top of the NHL's standings.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

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	GP	W	L	OTL	SL	GF	GA	Pts	Home	Away	Last 10	Strk
d-Philadelphia	53	35	13	2	3	180	137	75	18-7-0-2	17-6-2-1	8-2-0-0	W2
d-Tampa Bay	54	33	16	3	2	164	162	71	18-5-1-1	15-11-2-1	7-3-0-0	W1
d-Boston	53	30	16	2	5	161	119	67	14-10-1-2	16-6-1-3	6-4-0-0	L1
Pittsburgh	54	34	16	2	2	164	122	72	19-9-1-0	15-7-1-2	8-2-0-0	L1
Washington	54	29	15	5	5	150	134	68	17-5-2-5	12-10-3-0	5-2-1-2	W2
Montreal	54	30	19	4	1	139	131	65	18-7-3-1	12-12-1-0	6-2-1-1	L1
NY Rangers	55	29	22	2	2	153	135	62	12-12-1-2	17-10-1-0	3-6-0-1	L4
Carolina	53	26	21	2	4	159	164	58	14-9-1-1	12-12-1-3	5-5-0-0	W1
Atlanta	55	24	21	4	6	158	178	58	12-11-1-4	12-10-3-2	2-5-1-2	L3
Buffalo	51	24	22	5	0	145	149	53	12-12-1-0	12-10-4-0	6-4-0-0	W1
Florida	52	23	23	2	4	140	141	52	11-8-2-3	12-15-0-1	3-3-1-3	W1
Toronto	52	21	26	2	3	133	162	47	12-11-2-2	9-15-0-1	3-6-0-1	L1
New Jersey	53	19	30	3	1	113	154	42	10-13-2-1	9-17-0-1	7-1-2-0	W1
Ottawa	53	17	28	5	3	117	174	42	9-15-2-2	8-13-3-1	1-7-1-1	L9
NY Islanders	52	17	28	3	4	128	169	41	9-12-1-3	8-16-2-1	4-6-0-0	W1

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	OTL	SL	GF	GA	Pts	Home	Away	Last 10	Strk
d-Vancouver	53	34	10	4	5	179	125	77	18-3-1-4	16-7-3-1	6-1-1-2	W5
d-Detroit	52	31	15	4	2	173	154	68	15-7-3-1	16-8-1-1	4-5-0-1	L2
d-Dallas	53	30	18	1	4	152	150	65	16-7-1-3	14-11-0-1	5-5-0-0	L3
Nashville	53	28	18	4	3	141	125	63	12-4-3-3	16-14-1-0	5-4-0-1	W1
San Jose	53	28	19	4	2	150	144	62	13-10-2-1	15-9-2-1	7-2-0-1	W3
Anaheim	54	29	21	2	2	146	150	62	17-8-0-1	12-13-2-1	7-3-0-0	W1
Phoenix	54	26	19	6	3	153	156	61	11-10-3-2	15-9-3-1	4-6-0-0	W1
Los Angeles	53	29	22	1	1	150	129	60	17-9-1-0	12-13-0-1	6-3-0-1	W2
Minnesota	52	27	20	1	4	135	138	59	12-11-0-2	15-9-1-2	6-4-0-0	L1
Calgary	54	26	21	2	5	154	160	59	14-9-0-2	12-12-2-3	7-1-1-1	L1
Chicago	52	27	21	2	2	167	147	58	16-13-0-0	11-8-2-2	6-3-0-1	L1
Colorado	52	25	21	6	0	164	172	56	14-13-3-0	11-8-3-0	4-6-0-0	L3
Columbus	52	25	22	3	2	141	162	55	13-12-0-1	12-10-3-1	5-3-1-1	W2
St. Louis	51	23	20	4	4	138	153	53	16-8-1-2	7-12-3-2	3-5-2-0	L1
Edmonton	52	15	29	1	7	129	180	38	7-14-1-3	8-15-1-3	1-8-0-1	L4

d — division leaders ranked 1-2-3 regardless of points; a team winning in overtime or shootout is credited with two points and a victory in the W column; the team losing in overtime or shootout receives one point which is registered in the OTL (overtime loss) or SL (shootout loss) column.

Yesterday's results
New Jersey 4 Montreal 1
Tampa Bay 4 St. Louis 3 (OT)
Washington 3 Pittsburgh 0
Nashville 3 Detroit 0
Philadelphia 3 Dallas 1
Phoenix 1 Minnesota 0
San Jose 2 Boston 0

Saturday's results
Montreal 2 N.Y. Rangers 0
Buffalo 6 Toronto 2
Columbus 4 Edmonton 3
Los Angeles 4 Calgary 3 (SO)
N.Y. Islanders 5 Ottawa 3
Anaheim 3 Colorado 0
Carolina 4 Atlanta 3 (OT)

Tonight's games (all times Eastern)
Atlanta at Toronto, 7 p.m.
N.Y. Rangers at Detroit, 7:30 p.m.
Edmonton at Nashville, 8 p.m.
Chicago at Calgary, 9:30 p.m.
Colorado at Phoenix, 9:30 p.m.
Ottawa at Vancouver, 10 p.m.

DEVILS 4, CANADIENS 1

First Period
1. New Jersey, Zubrus 12, 1:12
2. New Jersey, Kovalchuk 16 (White, Zajac) 4:04
Penalties — Pacioretty Mtl (holding) 6:41, Talinder NJ (hooking) 12:39.
Second Period
3. New Jersey, Zajac 9 (Volchenkov) 3:16
4. Montreal, Subban 6 (Gomez, Pacioretty) 6:32
Penalty — Pacioretty Mtl (goaltender interference) 12:41.
Third Period
5. New Jersey, Kovalchuk 17 (Zajac) 18:39 (en)
Penalty — Gomez Mtl (misconduct) 18:39.
Shots on goal by

New Jersey	10	14	6—30
Montreal	11	5	10—26

Goal (shots-saves) — New Jersey: Brodeur (W,13-19-2)(11-11), Hedberg (start second, 15-14); Montreal: Price (L,26-17-5). **Power plays (goals-chances)** — New Jersey: 0-2; Montreal: 0-1.
Attendance — 21,273 (21,273) at Montreal.

SATURDAY

CANADIENS 2, RANGERS 0

First Period — No Scoring.
Penalties — Sauer NYR (interference) 6:14, Picard Mtl, Avery NYR (fighting), Moen Mtl (roughing), Weber Mtl (cross checking), Prust NYR (slashing, roughing) 14:36.
Second Period
1. Montreal, Gomez 7 (Picard, Weber) 18:34
Penalties — Kostitsyn Mtl (boarding) 1:31, Subban Mtl (tripping) 6:21, Picard Mtl (interference) 9:40, Subban Mtl (high sticking) 15:56.
Third Period
2. Montreal, Plekanec 18 (Subban) 19:42 (en)
Penalty — Prust NYR (interference) 0:46.
Shots on goal by

N.Y. Rangers	10	6	19—35
Montreal	12	11	6—29

Goal — N.Y. Rangers: Biron (L,8-5-0)' Montreal: Price (W,26-16-5). **Power plays (goals-chances)** — Montreal: 0-2; N.Y. Rangers: 0-4.
Attendance — 21,273 (21,273) at Montreal.

SABRES 6, MAPLE LEAFS 2

First Period
1. Buffalo, Pominville 12 (Vanek) 3:31
2. Buffalo, Stafford 16 (Leopold, Myers) 5:52 (pp)
Penalties — MacArthur Tor (hooking) 5:23, McCormick Buf (cross-checking) 9:48, Brent Tor (high-sticking) 14:16, Weber Buf (slashing) 17:03.
Second Period
3. Buffalo, Gaustad 7 (Grier, Niedermayer) 4:19
4. Buffalo, Connolly 7 (Vanek, Stafford) 7:14 (pp)
5. Toronto, Kulemin 18 (Schenn) 8:50 (sh)
6. Buffalo, Stafford 17, 14:22
Penalties — Komisarek Tor (roughing) 6:05, Boyce Tor (tripping) 7:53, Kaberle Tor, Byron Buf (unsportsmanlike conduct), Komisarek Tor, McCormick Buf (fighting) 13:09, Pominville Buf (tripping) 17:21.
Third Period
7. Toronto, Beauchemin 2 (Versteeg, Armstrong) 12:39
8. Buffalo, Vanek 19, 16:43
Penalties — None.
Shots on goal by

Toronto	10	8	7—25
Buffalo	12	18	13—43

Goal (shots-saves) — Toronto: Reimer (L,5-4-0) (30-25), Giguere (start third)(13-12); Buffalo: Miller (W,22-15-4).
Power plays (goals-chances) — Toronto: 0-3; Buffalo: 2-4.
Referees — Wes McCauley, Dan O'Rourke.
Linesmen — Pierre Racicot, Anthony Sericolo.
Attendance — 18,264 (18,690) at Buffalo.

ISLANDERS 5, SENATORS 3

First Period
1. N.Y. Islanders, Moulson 18 (Hillen, Tavares) 4:10
2. Ottawa, Neil 3 (Fisher) 4:23
3. N.Y. Islanders, Grabner 16 (Nielsen, Wishart) 9:44
4. Ottawa, Fisher 14 (Kelly, Campoli) 12:20
5. Ottawa, Kovalev 11 (Regin, Campoli) 17:11
6. N.Y. Islanders, Schremp 8 (Colliton, Wishart) 17:28
Penalties — Z.Smith Ott, Martin NYI (fighting) 3:08, Campoli Ott (hooking) 5:42.
Second Period — No Scoring.
Penalties — Tavares NYI (interference) 14:04, Kuba Ott (tripping) 15:39, Michalek Ott, Tavares NYI (roughing, roughing), MacDonald NYI (misconduct) 17:20, Phillips Ott (interference) 19:55, Lehner Ott (elbowing; served by Foligno) 20:00.
Third Period
7. N.Y. Islanders, Schremp 9 (Hamonic, Grabner) 1:39 (pp)
8. N.Y. Islanders, Nielsen 6 (Hamonic) 19:51 (en, sh)
Penalties — Karlsson Ott (delay of game) 12:09, MacDonald NYI (tripping) 18:15.
Shots on goal by

Ottawa	6	8	9—23
N.Y. Islanders	13	12	13—38

Goal (shots-saves) — Ottawa: Elliott (13-10), Lehner (L,1-2-0)(start second)(24-23); N.Y. Islanders: Poulin (W,4-2-1). **Power plays (goals-chances)** — Ottawa: 0-2; N.Y. Islanders: 1-5.
Att. — 10,415 (16,234) at Uniondale, N.Y.

BLUE JACKETS 4, OILERS 3

First Period
1. Edmonton, Paajarvi 8 (Omark, Gagner) 2:14
2. Edmonton, Penner 17 (Hemsky, Smid) 7:44
3. Columbus, Umberger 18 (Vermette, Tyutin) 14:19
Penalties — Vandermeer Edm, Dorsett Clb (slashing) 5:13, Smid Edm (high-sticking) 8:47, Voracek Clb (tripping) 10:11, Dorsett Clb (slashing) 12:09, Vandermeer Edm (cross-checking) 17:36.
Second Period
4. Columbus, Huselius 10 (Umberger, Clitsome) 14:35
Penalties — Nash Clb (goaltender interference), Brassard Clb (unsportsmanlike conduct) 3:18, Voracek Clb (hooking) 9:54.
Third Period
5. Edmonton, Paajarvi 9 (Omark, Gagner) 5:31
6. Columbus, Umberger 19 (Russell, Vermette) 13:44
7. Columbus, Huselius 11 (Umberger, Russell) 16:00
Penalty — Cogliano Edm (interference) 10:28.
Shots on goal by

Edmonton	10	8	8—26
Columbus	10	9	15—34

Goal — Edmonton: Khabibulin (L,8-24-2); Columbus: Mason (W,17-13-2). **Power plays (goals-chances)** — Edmonton: 0-5; Columbus: 0-3.
Att. — 18,370 (18,144) at Columbus, Ohio.

KINGS 4, FLAMES 3 (SO)

First Period
1. Los Angeles, Scuderi 2 (Williams, Smyth) 0:39
2. Calgary, Regehr 1 (Tanguay, Morrison) 1:21
3. Los Angeles, Brown 18 (Williams, Johnson) 6:17 (pp)
Penalty — Tanguay Cal (hooking) 5:10.
Second Period
4. Calgary, Tanguay 13 (Morrison, Iginla) 0:45
5. Los Angeles, Williams 19 (Loktionov, Brown) 11:02
Penalties — Mitchell LA (holding) 4:17, Greene LA (roughing) 7:11, Bourque Cal (hooking) 8:53, Bourque Cal (hooking) 15:15, Regehr Cal (high-sticking) 16:05.
Third Period
6. Calgary, Tanguay 14 (Morrison, Iginla) 11:15 (pp)
Penalties — Kopitar LA (holding) 10:13, Stoll LA (holding) 11:15.
Overtime — No Scoring.
Penalties — None.
Shootout — Los Angeles wins 3-2
Calgary (2) — Bourque, goal; Tanguay, goal, Jokinen, miss; Glencross, miss; Morrison, miss; Iginla, miss; Bouwmeester, miss; **Los Angeles (3)** — Handzus, goal; Stoll, goal, Kopitar, miss; Johnson, miss; Brown, miss; Doughty, miss; Williams, goal.
Shots on goal by

Los Angeles	13	15	4	1—33
Calgary	12	15	7	1—35

Goal — Los Angeles: Quick (W,24-14-1); Calgary: Kiprusoff (L,22-18-3). **Power-plays (goals-chances)** — Los Angeles: 1-4; Calgary: 1-4.
Attendance — 19,289 (19,289) at Calgary.

NFL

SUPER BOWL XLV

Last night's result
At Arlington, Texas
Green Bay (NFC) 31 Pittsburgh (AFC) 25

PACKERS 31, STEELERS 25

Pittsburgh	**0**	**10**	**7**	**8 —25**
Green Bay	**14**	**7**	**0**	**10 —31**

First Quarter
GB—Nelson 29 pass from Rodgers (Crosby kick), 3:44.
GB—Collins 37 interception return (Crosby kick), 3:20.
Second Quarter
Pgh—FG Suisham 33, 11:08.
GB—Jennings 21 pass from Rodgers (Crosby kick), 2:24.
Pgh—Ward 8 pass from Roethlisberger (Suisham kick), 0:39.
Third Quarter
Pit—Mendenhall 8 run (Suisham kick), 10:19.
Fourth Quarter
GB—Jennings 8 pass from Rodgers (Crosby kick), 11:57.
Pgh—Wallace 25 pass from Roethlisberger (Randle El run), 7:34.
GB—FG Crosby 23, 2:07.
Attendance—103,219 at Arlington, Texas.

TEAM STATISTICS	**Pit**	**GB**
First downs	19	15
Total Net Yards	387	338
Rushes-yards	23-126	13-50
Passing	261	288
Punt Returns	4-5	1-0
Kickoff Returns	6-111	3-63
Interceptions Ret.	0-0	2-38
Comp-Att-Int	25-40-2	24-39-0
Sacked-Yards Lost	1-2	3-16
Punts	3-51.0	6-40.5
Fumbles-Lost	1-1	1-0
Penalties-Yards	6-55	7-67
Time of Possession	33:25	26:35

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS
RUSHING—Pittsburgh, Mendenhall 14-63, Roethlisberger 4-31, Redman 2-19, Moore 3-13. Green Bay, Starks 11-52, Rodgers 2-(minus 2).
PASSING—Pittsburgh, Roethlisberger 25-40-2-263. Green Bay, Rodgers 24-39-0-304.
RECEIVING—Pittsburgh, Wallace 9-89, Ward 7-78, Randle El 2-50, Sanders 2-17, Miller 2-12, Spaeth 1-9, Mendenhall 1-7, Brown 1-1. Green Bay, Nelson 9-140, J.Jones 5-50, Jennings 4-64, Driver 2-28, Jackson 1-14, Quarless 1-5, Hall 1-2, Crabtree 1-1.
MISSED FIELD GOAL—Pittsburgh, Suisham 52 (WL).

NCAA FOOTBALL

Saturday's result
All-Star Challenge
At San Antonio, Texas
Texas 13 The Nation 7

TENNIS

CANADA-SERBIA FED CUP

At Novi Sad, Serbia
(Serbia wins 3-2)
Yesterday's results — Reverse Singles
Aleksandra Wozniak, Blainville, Que., def. Aleksandra Krunic, Serbia, 7-6 (3), 6-3.
Bojana Jovanovski, Serbia def. **Rebecca Marino, Vancouver**, 6-0, 6-4.
Doubles
Tamara Curovic and Ana Jovanovic, Serbia, def. **Sharon Fichman, Toronto, and Marie-Eve Pelletier, Repentigny, Que.**, 7-6 (5), 6-4.
Saturday's results — Singles
Rebecca Marino, Vancouver, def. Aleksandra Krunic, Serbia, 6-3, 3-6, 7-5.
Bojana Jovanovski, Serbia, def. **Aleksandra Wozniak, Blainville, Que.**, 6-4, 7-5.

ATP SA OPEN

At Johannesburg, South Africa
Yesterday's results
Singles — Championship
Kevin Anderson (4), South Africa, def. Somdev Devvarman, India, 4-6, 6-3, 6-2.
Doubles — Championship
James Cerretani, U.S., and **Adil Shamasdin, Pickering, Ont.**, def. Scott Lipsky and Rajeev Ram (1), U.S., 6-3, 3-6, 10-7 tiebreak.

ATP PBZ ZAGREB INDOORS

At Zagreb, Croatia
Yesterday's results
Singles — Championship
Ivan Dodig, Croatia, def. Michael Berrer (8), Germany, 6-3, 6-4.

GOLF

PGA PHOENIX OPEN

At Scottsdale, Ariz.
Par 71 (35-36)
Partial Fourth Round
(32 players did not complete round and will finish today)

Vijay Singh	69-65-68-66—268
Nick Watney	70-66-65-68—269
J.B. Holmes	65-70-67-67—269
Brandt Snedeker	69-68-66-67—270
Webb Simpson	70-66-67-67—270
Ryuji Imada	68-67-69-67—271
Cameron Beckman	65-70-67-69—271
Brian Gay	69-68-65-70—272
D.A. Points	68-66-69-69—272
Frank Lickliter II	72-64-65-72—273
Rory Sabbatini	70-66-68-69—273
Pat Perez	69-67-67-70—273
Alex Prugh	70-67-66-70—273
William McGirt	70-65-68-70—273
Brendon de Jonge	67-72-68-66—273
Dustin Johnson	64-73-70-67—274
Charley Hoffman	65-71-68-70—274
Hunter Mahan	68-68-68-70—274
Bubba Watson	70-68-66-70—274
Lucas Glover	66-68-69-71—274
Matt Bettencourt	67-67-68-72—274
Tom Lehman	65-72-69-69—275
Charlie Wi	68-68-67-72—275
Hunter Haas	74-63-70-69—276
Justin Leonard	70-66-69-71—276
Fred Couples	67-71-67-71—276
Marc Leishman	67-69-69-71—276
Chris Kirk	66-72-73-65—276
Jimmy Walker	69-68-71-69—277
Brian Davis	70-68-69-70—277
Brendan Steele	72-65-71-70—278
John Rollins	73-65-73-67—278
Martin Piller	72-66-68-72—278
Jeff Maggert	70-66-73-70—279
Bill Lunde	69-68-70-73—280
Jarrod Lyle	70-67-73-71—281
Bryce Molder	70-68-70-73—281
Robert Allenby	68-67-71-75—281
Jason Bohn	65-73-70-73—281
Stephen Ames	**70-68-68-75—281**
Tom Gillis	65-71-72-74—282
Michael Putnam	71-67-70-74—282
Andres Romero	72-66-67-78—283
Brett Wetterich	68-70-71-74—283

WOMEN'S AUSTRALIAN OPEN

At Melbourne, Australia
Par 73
Final Round

Yani Tseng	70-67-68-71—276
Melissa Reid	70-73-72-68—283
Ji Eun-hee	69-70-70-74—283
Jiyai Shin	67-72-69-75—283
Jennifer Song	67-73-74-71—285
Sandra Gal	72-71-70-73—286
Karrie Webb	72-71-74-70—287
Cindy LaCrosse	72-68-73-74—287
Katherine Hull	73-71-67-76—287
Karen Stupples	70-76-74-68—288
Nikki Campbell	69-72-72-75—288
Ryu So-yeon	72-69-75-73—289
Lydia Ko	73-73-68-75—289
Mariajo Uribe	72-70-70-77—289

EUROPEAN PGA QATAR MASTERS

At Doha, Qatar
Par 72
Final Round

Thomas Bjorn	74-65-66-69—274
Alvaro Quiros	75-69-68-68—278
Markus Brier	71-66-69-73—279
Rafael Cabrera-Bello	77-68-66-68—279
David Howell	75-69-68-68—280

CURLING

CANADIAN JR CHAMPIONSHIP

At Calgary
Men
Yesterday's results
Semifinal
Ontario (Camm) 6 Newfoundland & Labrador (C.Thomas) 4
Championship
Saskatchewan (Moskowy) 8 Ontario (Camm) 7 (extra end)
Women
Saturday's results
Semifinal
Saskatchewan (Paulsen) 7 Manitoba (Meakin) 6
Championship
Saskatchewan (T.Paulsen) 6 Alberta (Chyz) 4

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
d-Boston	38	12	.760	—
d-Miami	37	14	.725	1½
d-Chicago	34	15	.694	3½
Atlanta	33	18	.647	5½
Orlando	32	20	.615	7
New York	26	24	.520	12
Philadelphia	23	27	.460	15
Indiana	21	27	.438	16
Charlotte	21	29	.420	17
Milwaukee	19	30	.388	18½
Detroit	19	32	.373	19½
New Jersey	15	37	.288	24
Toronto	14	37	.275	24½
Washington	13	37	.260	25
Cleveland	8	43	.157	30½

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
d-San Antonio	42	8	.840	—
Dallas	35	15	.700	7
d-L.A. Lakers	35	16	.686	7½
d-Oklahoma City	33	17	.660	9
New Orleans	32	20	.615	11
Denver	30	21	.588	12½
Utah	30	22	.577	13
Portland	27	24	.529	15½
Memphis	27	25	.519	16
Phoenix	23	25	.479	18
Houston	24	28	.462	19
Golden State	22	27	.449	19½
L.A. Clippers	19	31	.380	23
Sacramento	12	35	.255	28½
Minnesota	11	39	.220	31

d – division leader
Yesterday's results
Boston 91 Orlando 80
Indiana 105 New Jersey 86
Miami 97 L.A. Clippers 79
New York 117 Philadelphia 103
Saturday's results
Atlanta 99 Washington 92
Dallas 101 Charlotte 92
Denver 113 Minnesota 100
Detroit 89 Milwaukee 78
Golden State 101 Chicago 90
Houston 95 Memphis 93 (OT)
L.A. Lakers 101 New Orleans 95
Oklahoma City 121 Utah 105
Portland 111 Cleveland 105
Tonight's games (all times Eastern)
Boston at Charlotte, 7 p.m.
L.A. Lakers at Memphis, 8 p.m.
Minnesota at New Orleans, 8 p.m.
Cleveland at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.
Houston at Denver, 9 p.m.
Chicago at Portland, 10 p.m.
Utah at Sacramento, 10 p.m.
Phoenix at Golden State, 10:30 p.m.

TRANSACTIONS

NHL

COLORADO AVALANCHE — Signed C Peter Forsberg.

LACROSSE

NLL

EAST DIVISION

	GP	W	L	Pct.	GF	GA	GB
Toronto	6	4	2	.667	69	59	—
Buffalo	5	3	2	.600	53	50	½
Rochester	5	3	2	.600	49	54	½
Boston	7	4	3	.571	64	53	½
Philadelphia	6	3	3	.500	52	56	1

WEST DIVISION

	GP	W	L	Pct.	GF	GA	GB
Calgary	6	4	2	.667	71	69	—
Minnesota	5	3	2	.600	58	52	½
Washington	6	3	3	.500	69	72	1
Colorado	5	1	4	.200	47	51	2½
Edmonton	5	0	5	.000	44	59	3½

Saturday's results
Boston 9 Toronto 7
Rochester 11 Philadelphia 6
Washington 10 Colorado 8
Friday's result
Buffalo 15 Minnesota 12

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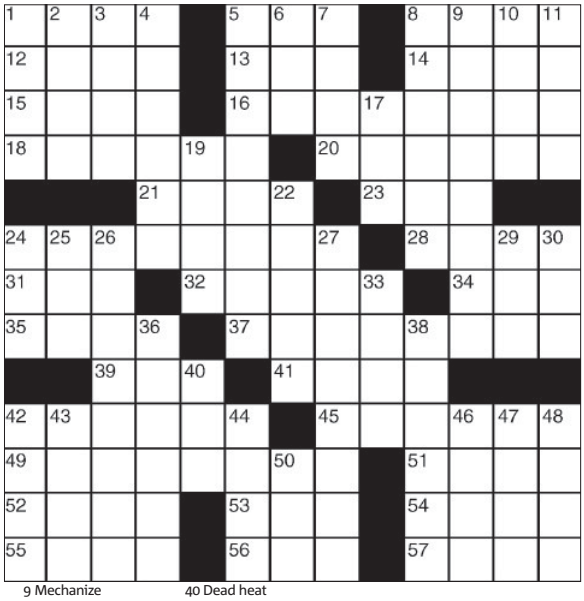
Crossword



Across
1 Mates of ahs
5 Civil War soldier
8 Suitcases
12 Voting coalition
13 Right angle
14 Modern-day coin
15 Smell
16 Highly rated
18 Igloo dweller
20 Bury
21 One of Henry VIII's Catherines
23 Pick a target
24 Unfaithful one
28 Exceptional
31 Water (Fr.)
32 Pastoral tribe of Kenya
34 2,000 pounds
35 Bohemian
37 Bicycle type
39 Suitable
41 Outside (Pref.)
42 Perfect place
45 Zooming vehicle
49 Old British coin
51 45-Across, for one
52 Duel tool
53 "— Town"
54 Fit of peevishness
55 Carousel, e.g.
56 Ultra-modernist
57 Pianist Dame Myra

Down
1 Reed instrument
2 Bygone car maker
3 Fisherman's item
4 Scenario
5 Alter a disc, maybe
6 "Xanadu" band's initials
7 Green minus yellow
8 Rouse to action
9 Mechanize
10 Metric measure
11 Take up like a sponge
17 Genetic abbr.
19 Cripple
22 View anew
24 Afternoon affair
25 Armed conflict
26 Was cleverer than
27 Cattle farm worker
29 Shad product
30 Conclusion
33 Analogy phrase
36 "Whee!"
38 Soap ingredient
40 Dead heat
42 Addict
43 Conical tent (Var.)
44 In due time
46 Mysterious letter
47 Elevator man
48 Connect the —
50 Poolroom stick

▶ Yesterday's answer

Sudoku

	9	5		7				8
	8					4		
6		2		1	9			
		4	6			9		
			9		7			
		1			5	7		
			7	6		1		3
		7					5	
4				3		6	2	

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's answer ▶

1	7	2	5	9	4	6	3	8
8	3	6	7	2	1	9	5	4
4	5	9	8	6	3	2	7	1
7	9	3	6	1	8	5	4	2
5	2	4	9	3	7	1	8	6
6	8	1	2	4	5	7	9	3
3	6	5	4	7	2	8	1	9
9	1	8	3	5	6	4	2	7
2	4	7	1	8	9	3	6	5

Send a KISS

Show some love! Send a note to somebody special at kiss@metronews.ca

Mommy, I hope you have the happiest of birthdays!! I wish I was there to celebrate with you but you're in my thoughts. Kick up your feet and relax today! Love you,
YOUR PRINCESS IZABELKA

Pierre boo, I love you so much, you are my world, my everything. I'm glad you were sent to me, I cherish everything we have. **RAE**

Andia, You are the best gift I have ever received! Thanks for being with me in every second of this beautiful life Aroosakam!
MEHRANET

Chemoud, Who knew a year would go by this quickly? I love you so much and I can't wait to spend more and more time with you and fall even more in love with you. Always and only yours!! **BEC BEC**

Today's horoscope

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca

♈ Aries March 21-April 20 If you try to make the facts fit the conclusions you have already reached you will find yourself in trouble very quickly. Not everyone is as gullible as you sometimes like to think

♉ Taurus April 21-May 21 You seem to be extremely popular at the moment, and long may it continue, but could it be that some people are flattering you in the hope that they might get something out of it?

♊ Gemini May 22-June 21 You have never been one to follow the herd and you are not about to start now. The more others urge you to believe what everyone else believes the more you will resist the pressure to conform.

♋ Cancer June 22-July 22 Your thinking seems to be a bit confused at the moment, so don't put too much trust in what your mind tells you.

♌ Leo July 23-Aug.23 You may be supremely confident of your abilities but even a Leo needs a helping hand once in a while – and you'll need it today. Don't just sit there looking pathetic hoping that someone will notice your plight.

♍ Virgo Aug. 24- Sept. 22 You may be good at keeping secrets but you are also tempted to use what you know about a certain person to further your own interests.

♎ Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23 There are occasions when telling the truth can cause more problems than it solves. Before you open your mouth today ask yourself if a friend really wants to know what is going on behind their back.

♏ Scorpio Oct. 24-Nov. 22 What seems like a nailed on fact early in the day may turn out to be a fantasy later on, so be careful what you allow yourself to believe. Just

♐ Sagittarius Nov. 23-Dec. 21 You may be tempted to dabble in something that promises big rewards for a relatively small risk, but is that really such a great idea?

♑ Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 20 What you hear today is only half what you need to know before you are in a position to make a decision, so don't let others pressure you into choosing too soon.

♒ Aquarius Jan. 21-Feb. 18 A friend's ailment will remind you that health is precious and must be looked after. Start the week slowly and don't do anything risky.

♓ Pisces Feb. 19-March 20 Before agreeing to a deal or signing a contract make sure you will be able to deliver on time. If you are not 100 per cent certain you can do that it might be best to give it a miss.

SALLY BROMPTON

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